

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PCH-04 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00

CIAE-00 USSS-00 INRE-00 NSAE-00 /035 R

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S/S-O - TWOHIE

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O 270500Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

S E C R E T STATE 212519

EXDIS

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT, DOHA; BEIRUT POUCH BAGHDAD; BRASILIA  
POUCH RECIFE

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. FOLLOWING IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING OF  
OCTOBER 26.

2. MILITARY SITUATION. THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED PRESS RE-  
PORTS OF SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF CEASEFIRE IN AND AROUND  
SUEZ CITY. LATE EVENING PRESS REPORTS QUOTING ISRAELI  
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OFFICERS STATE THAT ISRAELI FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED ALMOST  
ALL OF SUEZ CITY AND THAT EGYPTIAN FORCES ON EASTERN SIDE  
OF CANAL SHELLED SUEZ CITY IN ATTEMPT TO DRIVE OUT  
ISRAELIS. ISRAELI OFFICER SAID CITY'S MIN OIL RE-

FINERY WAS TOTALLY DESTROYED. WITH EXCEPTION OF FIGHTING IN AND AROUND SUEZ CITY, GROUND FORCES ON BOTH FRONTS APPEARED TO BE OBSERVING CEASEFIRE THROUGHOUT THE DAY. ISRAELIS CLAIM EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY ON THE EAST BANK CONTINUES TO BE TOTALLY CUT OFF. HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION OF MASS SURRENDERS ON PART OF THIRD ARMY.

A HEAVY VOLUME OF IDF EQUIPMENT MOVING ON ROADS ACROSS BRIDGES ON SUEZ CANAL INTO IDF CONTROLLED AREA ON WESTERN FRONT. IDF CURRENTLY CONTROLS THREE BRIDGES ACROSS CANAL.

3. ISRAEL'S AIRFIRE IN NORTHERN SECTOR DIRECTED AGAINST FEDAYEEN TARGETS ALONG THE ISRAELI-LEBANESE BORDER. HOWEVER, WE HAVE REPORTS GOL MAKING EFFORTS TO CONTROL FEDAYEEN. ISRAELI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ALLON TOLD US FEDAYEEN ATTACKS ON LEBANON-ISRAEL BORDER ARE TAPERING OFF. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF ANY GROUND OR AIR ACTIVITY ON SYRIAN FRONT.

4. IRAQI FORCES REPORTED TO DEPART FROM SYRIA. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE JORDANIAN SOURCES SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER INFORMED ARAB AMBASSADORS IN DAMASCUS OCTOBER 26 THAT ALL IRAQI AIR FORCE UNITS HAD DEPARTED SYRIA AND THAT IRAQI REGIONAL COMMAND DECIDED WITHDRAW ALL GROUND FORCES FROM SYRIA. SYRIANS REPORTEDLY TRIED TO REVERSE THIS DECISION AND ASKED ARAB AMBASSADORS TO HAVE THEIR GOVERNMENTS PRESSURE BAGHDAD TO KEEP IRAQI FORCES IN SYRIA UNTIL PEACE MATERIALIZES OR SHOULD WAR BREAK OUT AGAIN. SO FAR, ALL EFFORTS TO PRESSURE IRAQIS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.

5. UNEF. 550 UN PEACEKEEPING TROOPS HAVE DEPARTED FROM CYPRUS FOR MIDDLE EAST TO FORM FIRST PROVISIONAL CONTINGENTS OF UNEF. AS REQUESTED BY SYG AND APPROVED BY UNSC YESTERDAY, CONTINGENTS ARE FROM AUSTRIA, FINLAND AND SWEDEN. WE HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER RESPONSES TO OUR QUERIES  
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TO POSTS ABOUT THEIR ESTIMATES OF AVAILABILITY OF TROOPS AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR UNEF. ARGENTINA MIGHT WELL CONTRIBUTE 150-700 TROOPS WHO WOULD REQUIRE AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PREVIOUS AGREEMENT WITH THE UN, SWEDEN HAS COMMITTED 1600 TROOPS ON A STAND-BY BASIS TO UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 300 OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ALERTED FOR AN IMMEDIATE CALL UP. IRELAND WOULD TRANSFER ITS COMPANY OF ABOUT 140 MEN FROM CYPRUS CANADA'S FIRST AIRBORNE REGIMENT OF ABOUT 900 TROOPS COULD DEPART WITHIN 24 HOURS OF NOTIFICATION. GREECE COULD AIRLIFT ONE BATTALION OF LIGHT INFANTRY WITH ORGANIC EQUIPMENT. NEW ZEALAND COULD PROVIDE A SMALL CONTINGENT. BELGIUM COULD AIRLIFT ABOUT 700 MEN FROM

A PARACOMMANDO REGIMENT WITHIN 48 HOURS OF NOTIFICATION. BELGIUM PROPOSED THAT EC 9 OFFER EUROPEAN PEACE FORCE TO UNEF BUT DENMARK OBJECTED AND PLAN WAS DROPPED.

6. WE HAVE ALERTED APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENTS OF POSSIBLE REQUESTS TO THEM FOR OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING RIGHTS FOR USAF OPERATING FOR AND UNDER AUSPICES OF UN IN CONNECTION WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF UNEF. WE HAVE RECEIVED FAVORABLE REPLIES OR INDICATIONS FROM GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BELGIUM, GREAT BRITAIN, AUSTRIA, MALTA, AND MAURITIUS. WE HAVE OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN LIBERIA. IN VIEW OF NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF LIBYAN GOVERNMENT, WE DO NOT AT PRESENT PLAN TO ASK THE LATTER FOR OVERFLIGHT PERMISSION.

7. UN SYG ISSUED HIS REPORT (S/11052) ON UN EMERGENCY FORCE IN MIDDLE EAST IN ACCORDANCE WITH SC RESOLUTION 340, WHICH SETS FORTH THE MAIN FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES FOR SC APPROVAL: A) FORCE WILL BE UNDER COMMAND OF UN, VESTED IN SYG, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SC. SC WILL DECIDE UPON ALL MATTERS WHICH MAY AFFECT NATURE OR CONTINUED EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF FORCE. UNEF WILL AVOID ACTION WHICH COULD PREJUDICE RIGHTS, CLAIMS OR POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES. B) CONTINGENTS, TOTALLING ABOUT 7000 TROOPS, WILL BE SELECTED IN CONSULTATION WITH SC AND PARTIES, BEARING IN MIND AN ADEQUATE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION. UNEF SHALL NOT USE FORCE EXCEPT IN SELF-DEFENSE AND WILL HAVE  
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DEFENSIVE WEAPONS ONLY. SYG HAS APPOINTED CHIEF OF STAFF OF UNTSO, MAJOR GENERAL SIILASVUO, INTERIM COMMANDER OF UNEF. THE FORCE, WHICH WILL BE STATIONED INITIALLY FOR SIX MONTHS WILL COST ABOUT \$30 MILLION, EXPENSES TO BE ASSUMED BY THE UN MEMBERS AS APPORTIONED BY THE UNGA.

8. ISRAELIS CAPTURE SOVIET PILOTS. WE HAVE A REPORT FROM AN ISRAELI AIR FORCE PILOT THAT IAF HAD CAPTURED TWO SOVIET MIG PILOTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY BEING DETAINED.

9. UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. EGYPTIANS REQUESTED ANOTHER MEETING OF UNSC WHICH MET TO DISCUSS CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS.

10. PRESIDENT NIXON GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE 1900 (EDT) WHICH DEALT WITH ME ISSUES. TEXT FOLLOWS IN WIRELESS FILE.

11. U.S. MILITARY PETROLEUM SUPPLIES. ACCORDING TO JCS, CURRENT STATUS OF U.S. MILITARY PETROLEUM SUPPLIES HAS BEEN CRITICALLY AFFECTED BY ISRAELI CONFLICT. THE DEFENSE FUEL SUPPLY CENTER (DFSC) ESTIMATES THAT UP TO 37 PERCENT OF ANTICIPATED PETROLEUM SUPPLIES COULD BE CUT OFF AND THAT RESUPPLY IS UNCERTAIN AND UNRELIABLE.

12. HEYKEL ACCUSES U.S. MOHAMMED HASSANEIN HEYKEL, EDITOR OF INFLUENTIAL CAIRO NEWSPAPER AL AHRAM STATED IN HIS OCTOBER 26 COLUMN THAT PRESIDENT SADAT ACCUSED UNITED STATES OF DIRECT INTERVENTION IN ARAB/ISRAELI FIGHTING. HEYKEL QUOTED SADAT AS SAYING EGYPTIAN TROOPS QUOTE HAVE DEFEATED ISRAEL WHEN BOTH SIDES WERE WITHOUT HELP. BUT I CANNOT ORDER THEM TO CONTINUE THE WAR AGAINST UNITED STATES...UNQUOTE. AS FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE IN CAIRO, USINT CAIRO REPORTS THAT THERE IS NO APPARENT LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN EGYPT'S POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, THIS SITUATION COULD CHANGE.

13. ATTITUDE OF ISRAEL'S LABOR ALIGNMENT LEADERSHIP  
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TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. PRIME MINISTER MEIR AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE DAYAN MET ON OCTOBER 25 WITH LABOR ALIGNMENT LEADERSHIP. BOTH SAID, IN EFFECT, THAT U.S. ACTION IN PRODUCING UN RESOLUTION 338 AND ISRAEL'S RAPID ACCEPTANCE OF IT WERE WISE MOVES MILITARILY AND POLITICALLY, IN TERMS OF BOTH PRESERVING INDISPENSIBLE U.S. SUPPORT OF ISRAEL AND SEEKING A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN THE REGION. EMBASSY TEL AVIV THINKS ISRAELI LEADERSHIP WILLING TO GRANT POSSIBILITY THAT NOW US WILL BE ABLE TO ORGANIZE A MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATING PROCESS, DESPITE LACK OF ANY OPTIMISM THAT A SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT MAY BE IN SIGHT. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS  
NOUAKCHOTT  
SUVA BY POUCH  
BANJUL BY POUCH  
CURACAO BY POUCH

MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

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